



Burr Ridge Briefs Annual Report

BURR RIDGE DIRECTORY

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

MAYOR

Gary Grasso
654-8181, ext. 160 or
654-4500

VILLAGE CLERK

Karen Thomas
654-8181, ext. 101
kthomas@burr-ridge.gov

TRUSTEES

Dave Allen 920-9613
Dwight DeClouette 363-3737
Bob Grela 662-0517
Al Paveza 323-7115
Bob Sodikoff 323-6134
Maureen Wott 325-4722

VILLAGE STAFF

654-8181

ADMINISTRATOR

Steve Stricker, ext. 100
sstricker@burr-ridge.gov

ASSISTANT TO THE ADMINISTRATOR

Lisa Scheiner, ext. 105
lscheiner@burr-ridge.gov

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Doug Pollock, ext. 120
dpollock@burr-ridge.gov

FINANCE DIRECTOR

Jerry Sapp, ext. 200
jsapp@burr-ridge.gov

CHIEF OF POLICE

Herbert Timm 323-8181
htimm@burr-ridge.gov

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/ VILLAGE ENGINEER

Lance Calvert
323-4733, ext. 450 or
654-8181, Option 7
lcalvert@burr-ridge.gov

2005: A Message from the Mayor and Board of Trustees

As we close the books on 2005, there is one last opportunity to review the accomplishments of the year. 2005 was a seminal year for the Village of Burr Ridge, largely due to the tireless efforts of our resident volunteers, staff and trustees. Each deserves a heartfelt "thank you" for making Burr Ridge "a very special place." Here are just a few of their accomplishments:

- New Mayor Gary Grasso and four new Trustees join Al Paveza and Robert Sodikoff on the Village Board: Dave Allen, Dwight DeClouette, Bob Grela and Maureen Wott. Outgoing Village President Jo Irmen and outgoing Trustees Dan Pallat, Amy Rohner and Dolores Cizek are thanked for their years of dedicated service to the Village.

- This Autumn, the Board approved Phase I of the Village Center, which includes construction of five of seven buildings with roads and landscapes. The developer, Opus North, has begun site work and should begin construction this Spring; anticipating a grand opening by mid 2007.

- The Space Needs Committee began examining the critical needs of the Police Department and Village Hall. The Committee continues discussing the best way to provide for the Village's future police and administrative needs in anticipation of a vibrant Village Center, all within sound fiscal policy.

Many thanks to Committee members Greg Trzupek, Aristotle Halikias, Josephine Goetz, Don Santacaterina, Bob Grela and Gary Grasso.

- Renovation of the Public Works facility was almost completed. The offices were renovated and a new roof installed. Public Works staff also developed and implemented a Geographic Information System. GIS creates a reliable inventory of the Village's infrastructure enabling staff to more efficiently plan future maintenance projects.

- The annual road program included reconstruction of Garfield Avenue from 91st Street to Rustic Acres, plus resurfacing in Heatherfields Subdivision, Lincolnshire Drive, McClintock Drive, Woodview Road, Fars Cove, 81st Street and 81st Court. Various other roads received pavement rejuvenator, sealing, and asphalt patches.

- The Economic Development Committee and Hotel Marketing subcommittee promoted Burr Ridge hotels by creating a marketing campaign and web site: www.burrridgehotels.com. Utilizing the theme "The Great Southwest of Chicago," the site advertises the Village's four quality hotels.

- The Veterans need the financial assistance of the community. To date, they have raised only \$70,000 of the \$270,000 required to construct the Veterans' Memorial. Honoring all branches of the military, this memorial expresses our deep appreciation of the defenders of our liberty. They have given a lot; too often the ultimate. Please consider making a donation to the Committee to see their memorial rise. Call Corporal Tim Vaclav at 323-8181, extension 309 for more information.

- Burr Ridge celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2006. To do it right, the Mayor has formed a citizens anniversary committee that includes two of our former village presidents to plan our celebrations.



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Plan Commission Hears Development Proposals for Village Center, Maintenance Free Housing

The Plan Commission completed the public hearing process for the proposed Burr Ridge Village Center, a mixed use retail, office and residential project located at the southeast corner of I-55 and County Line Road. The public hearing process included an amendment to the Village's Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the approval of a Planned Unit Development Ordinance. The Village Center includes approximately 220,000 square feet of retail floor area, 33,000 square feet of offices, 25,000 square feet of restaurants and 191 condominiums. Construction of the Village Center is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2006, with store openings in 2007.

The Plan Commission also conducted a hearing for a 52 unit single-family residential development on a 25 acre property located on 79th Street between County Line Road and Wolf Road. A rendering of one proposed home model is pictured at right. The subdivision improvements are expected to be under construction in the spring of 2006.



Many thanks to former Plan Commissioner Chair Bob Grela and current Chair Gregory Trzupek, former Commissioner Maureen Wott, and current commissioners John Manieri, Chris Cronin, Mike McTigue, Guy Franzese, Joe Perri, Diane Bolos, Pierre Wakim and Mike Stratis for their service and expertise.

Village Board Sets Goals for 2005 to 2007

In December, the Mayor and Board of Trustees set seven strategic goals. Among them is the creation of a fully functional Village/law enforcement campus with ample parking and synergy between buildings. In two years, it is expected that the Village Center will be completed and successful, with a plan in place for the development of the adjacent property. The Board wishes to increase Police visibility and reduce crime, create a plan for infrastructure maintenance issues, utilize technology to improve services and increase efficiency (such as online bill pay), firmly define Village boundaries, and create a voluntary code enforcement program.

Environmental Quality Commission Continues Annual Essay Contest and Awareness Efforts

The Environmental Quality Commission once again hosted its annual Essay Contest, awarding 15 students with generously donated prizes for their outstanding essays on a variety of environmental subjects. The Commission participated in the Burr Ridge Park District Harvest Festival. Thanks to Commissioners Sam Sedita, Ed Kahn, Pat Barry, Jim Wenkus, Vijay Singh and Ellen Bull for another successful year.

Pathway Commission Incorporates Gateway Committee; Oversees Sidewalk Construction

The mission of the Pathway Commission was expanded in 2005 to incorporate the functions of the disbanded Gateway Beautification Committee. The "Gateway" functions of the Pathway Commission are to make recommendations to the Village Board for beautification of streetscapes and other public spaces throughout the Village.

In 2005, the Pathway Commission oversaw completion of the County Line Road sidewalk, including landscaping of the parkways. Also in 2005, the Pathway Commission began plans for a sidewalk on 83rd Street from County Line Road to South Frontage Road. Grant funding was obtained for the 83rd Street sidewalk and construction is anticipated sometime in 2007 to 2009. In 2006, the Pathway Commission anticipates completion of sidewalk improvements on Plainfield Road immediately east of County Line Road and on 91st Street between Burr Ridge Middle School and Fallingwater Subdivision. The success of the Commission is due to its members: Chairperson Pat Liss, Marilou McGirr, Dave Stevenson, Todd Davis, Elmer Rothrock, John Pacocha, Luisa Hock and former member Maureen Wott.

Economic Development Committee & Hotel Marketing Subcommittee Promote Burr Ridge Hotels

The Hotel Marketing Subcommittee was created in April 2005 to make recommendations to the Economic Development Committee and Village Board concerning the development and administration of a hotel marketing plan. The purpose of the plan is to determine ways in which local hotel operators can increase room stays at the four hotels in Burr Ridge: Extended Stay America, the Marriott, Ramada Inn and Spring Hill Suites Marriott. The hotel marketing plan's goals include: increasing awareness of hotels as a group and individually, establishing a unique and meaningful "brand" for the Burr Ridge hotels, generating qualified leads among business and other general public audience segments, and building a database of future business opportunities. \$123,460 was budgeted in the FY 05-06 Hotel/Motel Tax Fund to develop and implement the plan. To date, the Subcommittee has successfully launched a Burr Ridge Hotels web site (www.burrridgehotels.com), and placed ads in Crain's Chicago Business and other business-related publications. An annual Market Trend Report will show how successful the marketing efforts are over time. At this time, hotel/motel revenues are exceeding projections.

Sincere thanks go to the Economic Development Committee, including Chairman Bob Sodikoff, Dwight DeClouette, Ron Santo, Josephine Goetz, David Christine, former member Sam Iorfida and Mike Donahue. Thanks also to Hotel Marketing Subcommittee members Gordy Snyder, Brent Scarboro of Marriott, Rich Barton of Ramada Inn, Ann O'Connor of Spring Hill Suites and Bob Wickowich of Extended Stay.

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Community Development Department Reviews Residential, Commercial Developments

The Community Development Department assisted the Plan Commission with two public hearings that drew substantial interest from the community. The first was a Planned Unit Development (PUD) for a maintenance free, zero lot line residential development at 11500 79th Street. The second was the rezoning and PUD for a mixed use Village Center in the Corporate Park. The Department also prepared a draft Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan for the Village Center.

In 2005, the total number of new housing starts was down to 32, compared to 37 in 2004. In the second half of 2005, staff saw an interesting trend occur, reviewing significantly more subdivision plats. There are approximately 200 vacant lots already platted in the Village, consistent with the number of vacant lots typically available, but there are an additional 100 lots planned to be platted at this time.

Finally, non-residential construction in the Village included the office buildings at 120 to 180



Harvester Drive which, when completed, will add 250,000 square feet of office space to the Village (one shown above) and two new office buildings (one shown at left) in the Fair Oaks PUD on Veterans Boulevard.

Public Works Water Division Completes Water Main Extension, System Maintenance

The Public Works Water Division oversaw completion of the 87th Street water main extension, creating a loop that helps adequately supply water and provides a source of water to a recently annexed area. In 2005, the Village also implemented a water main valve maintenance program to ensure proper operation of main line valves. To ensure high water quality and improve water flow throughout the distribution system, fire hydrants were flushed during the Spring and Fall. This program also enabled fire hydrants to be inspected and properly maintained. Inspections were also completed at the 2 MG North water tower, allowing staff to evaluate its future maintenance needs. The annual meter replacement program was continued with the installation of radio read capable meters to improve meter reading efficiency. In 2005, 3,224 J.U.L.I.E. locates were completed and water/wastewater staff assisted residents by completing 47 service requests.

Engineering Division Oversees Road Program, Development of Geographic Information System

Under supervision of the Public Works Engineering Division, the 2005 Road Program was completed under budget. It included pavement rehabilitation, reconstruction, and maintenance, as well as drainage improvements.



Engineering staff worked to achieve Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) approval and awarding of the federal grant funding for the 83rd Street resurfacing project. Completion of the Cook County Highway Department resurfacing of 79th Street, German Church and Wolf Roads was also monitored by the engineering staff. Phase II of the three phase GIS project, including hiring and training of interns for GPS data collection, was also fulfilled. The 2005 Street condition survey was completed and a tentative five-year Road Program plan was developed. Finally, engineering staff completed over 200 building and subdivision plan reviews and site inspections and responded to over 100 service requests from residents.

Forestry & Grounds Plants, Chips & Maintains Trees

The 2005 tree planting programs added 133 trees to the Village's right-of-ways. 71 trees were ordered by residents through the 26th Annual Resident Tree Purchasing Program. 1,000 native plants were added to the area surrounding Windsor Pond in an ongoing program to restore the land back to a natural area. This year, the Village also oversaw the planting of approximately 100 trees and a mixture of 35,000 crocus and daffodil bulbs along County Line Road. Also, as part of the comprehensive forestry program, parkway tree pruning in area 2 was completed. Although brush chipping at the Public Works facility was discontinued, curbside brush chipping was conducted and will again be offered in the Spring and Fall.

Snow Plowing, Street Sweeping & Maintenance Completed by Operations Division

In an on-going effort to maintain a safe and efficient snow plowing program, the Public Works Operations Division implemented formal training for all drivers and a computerized database of all snow plow routes was added. Treated salt was used to reduce total salt usage while achieving better results. Operations staff assisted residents by completing 171 service requests regarding drainage, streets, signs, and street lights. Street sweeping was conducted monthly from April through September and bi-weekly from October through November. Phase II of the three-phase Public Works renovation continued with roof repairs to the facility. Operations staff also renovated the guard rails located at 79th street west of Drew Avenue and North Frontage Road, west of County Line Road.

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Police Department Continues Emergency Planning & Accreditation Efforts

The Village embarked on a program to train all Village personnel in incident command and the National Incident Management System. This ensures that, during emergencies, elected officials and personnel will operate under a common command and control system, providing for more coordinated emergency response. The Village has also implemented a reverse 9-1-1 system. Using the 9-1-1 database, the "CodeRed" emergency notification system can make up to 1,000 calls per minute to notify residents of emergencies and provide information and direction.

The Burr Ridge Police Department is also in the process of achieving national accreditation as a law enforcement agency. Working toward accreditation since July 2003, the Department is wrapping up the self-assessment phase to demonstrate compliance with over 400 law enforcement standards. In late 2006, assessors from law enforcement agencies across the country will come to Burr Ridge and evaluate the department. We ask for community support in the successful completion of this project. Questions about accreditation and emergency management programs can be directed to Corporal Tim Vaclav at 323-8181, extension 309 or via email at tvacav@burr-ridge.gov.

Village Calendar Now Available Online

The Village's calendar of meeting and program dates is available online. Visit www.burr-ridge.gov and click on "Village Calendar" under "Click and Go." Residents can now download a copy of the calendar and print it for their own information.

Village Publications and Water Bills Revised

In 2005, water bills were reformatted after receiving complaints that postcard water bills were easily lost. Utility bills are now distributed by Third Millennium, a company specializing in utility billing services, along with five Village newsletters and an Annual Report. As a result, the Village has received fewer reports of lost water bills and has reduced the mailing cost for the newsletters and Annual Report.

Residents may recall that the Village is no longer producing the annual calendar. That document was instead divided into an Annual Report and Resident Guide, with calendar dates available on the Cable Channel 6 Bulletin Board and Village web site (www.burr-ridge.gov). This summer, residents received the first Burr Ridge Resident Guide, a comprehensive packet of information about Village services, programs, frequently asked questions and more. Resident Guides will be reprinted and mailed to residents on a three-year cycle to maximize savings.

Visit www.burr-ridge.gov today!

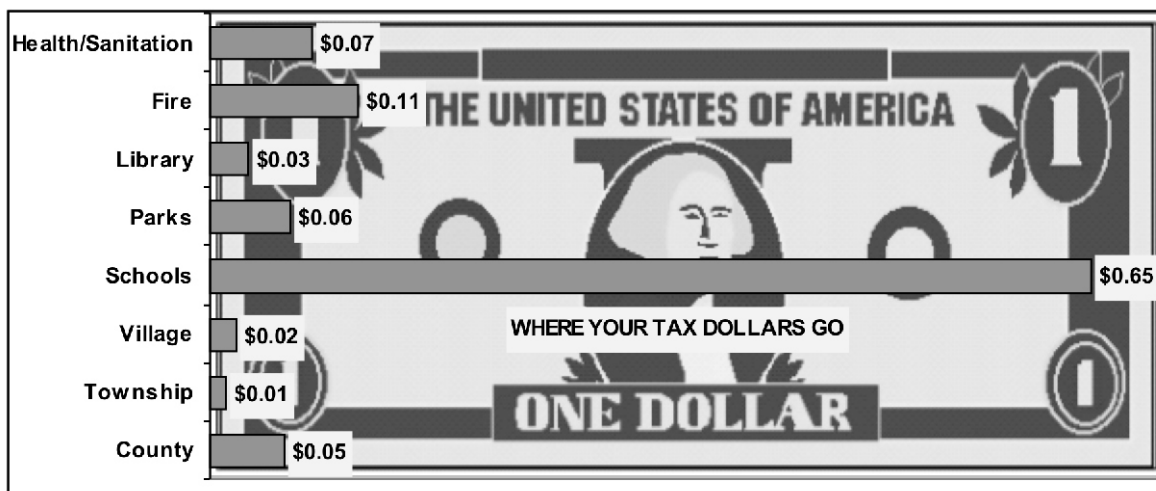
Village Maintains Low Property Tax Rate

Located within both Cook and DuPage Counties, the Village of Burr Ridge still has one of the lowest tax rates for a municipality in the Chicago metropolitan area. For a resident of Burr Ridge, the Village share of the 2004 average tax bill was approximately 2.0% (see below). For comparison purposes, consider that DuPage County received, on average, 4.4% and Cook County received 7.5%. School districts constituted the largest share with, for example, Grade School District 181, on average, receiving 45.8% of the tax bill and Grade School District 180 receiving 42.1%.

The Village tax base mix is comprised of 80% residential, 14% commercial, and 6% industrial. Over the past 10 years, the Village's Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) has grown from \$430,064,373 in 1995 to \$904,214,694 in 2004, a 110.3% increase. This represents an average annual increase of approximately 11.0%. Through this strong growth and development, the Village has kept its property tax levy and rate low. The tax rate for 2004 for a Village resident in DuPage County was \$.1105 and, in Cook County, the rate was \$.1220 per \$100 of EAV.

Real Estate Taxes: Percent of a Typical 2004 Bill that Went to the Village

Area	Tax	Percent
Braemoor Estates	0.1105	2.6%
Woodcreek	0.1105	2.1%
Devon Ridge	0.1105	2.2%
Pleasantdale	0.1220	1.9%



The Village Board of Trustees holds a public hearing on the second Monday of December before the passage of the Tax Levy Ordinance that sets the tax levy dollar amount. This Ordinance must be passed and filed with the respective counties by the last Tuesday in December of each year. The estimated 2005 tax levy rate is \$.0831, with a debt service rate of \$.0506, for a total of \$.1337.